

## CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A wireless sensor system comprising:  
a plurality of wireless nodes, each wireless node including a wireless transceiver transmitting over the radio frequency (RF) and a processor, the plurality of wireless nodes being distributed over an area,  
wherein the plurality of wireless node determines the presence of an object within the area by measuring the RF power between a neighboring pair of wireless nodes.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein an object is present in the area when the RF power between a first wireless node and a second neighboring wireless node is less than a predetermined value.
3. A method for providing occupancy detection, the method comprising:  
providing a plurality of wireless nodes, each wireless node including a wireless transceiver transmitting over the radio frequency (RF) and a processor, the plurality of wireless nodes being distributed over an area; and  
measuring the RF power between each neighboring pair of wireless nodes to determine the presence of an object within the area,  
wherein an object is present in the area when the RF power between a first wireless node and a second neighboring wireless node is less than a predetermined value.